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SOURCE Radio.

SOVIET COMMENTS ON THE INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING ORGANIZATION

The following report contains Soviet comments on the OIR (Organization Internationale de Radiodiffusion, International Broadcasting Organization) published in four issues of the Soviet periodical Radio.

Numbers in parentheses refer to appended sources.⁷

On 28 June 1946, a constituent assembly of broadcasting organizations of the European Zone (includes Europe and European USSR, part of Africa, and the Near East) met in Brussels and created the OIR, consisting of broadcasting organizations of 28 countries.

The British Broadcasting Corporation protested against the participation of Soviet republics in the organization. In December 1949, broadcasting commissions of France, Belgium, Holland, Italy, and other Western European countries announced that they would no longer participate in the OIR. Now, the organization has its headquarters in Prague.

For member countries, the OIR serves as an authority on questions concerning frequency allocation, according to the Copenhagen Plan (International agreement on frequency allocation)⁷. When the Copenhagen Plan went into effect, the Technical Center of the OIR carefully checked long- and medium-wave broadcasting stations, announcing violations and deviations in wave frequencies agreed on in Copenhagen.

The OIR carefully checks to see that nonmember countries adhere to the Copenhagen agreement. According to figures issued by the Technical Center on 1 April 1951, the US occupation forces in Germany use 22 frequencies in addition to those agreed on at Copenhagen, and English forces use three frequencies above the allotted amount. They use frequencies that had been allotted to Albania, Hungary, Sweden, Finland, Bulgaria, Denmark, Egypt, Syria, Ireland, and several frequencies of the Soviet Union.

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During a 24-hour period, the Technical Center makes up to 1,000 separate measurements. At the request of its members it also carries out comprehensive sets of measurements.

The OIR publishes the Information Bulletin of the OIR in Russian, French, and English. The bulletin covers problems of broadcasting organization on an international and national scale, technical problems of television, broadcasting and radio measurements, program transmission, economic questions, results of international conferences, etc.

The Technical Center exchanges measurement results and information with various technical centers of broadcasting associations in Western European countries.

The German Democratic Republic became a member in 1951. The OIR constantly exchanges publications and materials with the Chinese People's Republic and co-operates with broadcasting organizations of India, the People's Democratic Republic of Vietnam, and other countries.(1)

In December 1951, a meeting was held in Prague of the guiding organs of the OIR, the 19th and 20th congresses of the Administrative Council, the 10th regular session of the General Assembly, and the 5th congress of the Technical Commission.

As a result of arrangements made by the Technical Center, there were as many as 400 measurements taken in 1951 of long- and medium-wave lengths and up to 660 on short-wave lengths in a 24-hour period, as compared to 260 and 250, respectively, in 1947. At the beginning of 1951, measurements were made every day, while in previous years, they had been made every other day. At the request of OIR member, the number of field measurements and special measurements have greatly increased.

At the December 1951 session of the OIR, a telegram was read concerning China's joining the OIR. In 1952, the Chinese People's Republic was a member of the OIR and a permanent member of the Administrative Council exact date of admittance not given.

Sixteen nations of Europe and Asia were members of the OIR in 1952.

Problems concerning increasing international cooperation in broadcasting and the necessity of using broadcasting and television in the struggle for peace and publicizing the cultural accomplishments of peace-loving peoples were discussed at meetings held in December 1952.

Elections were held: the president of the Administrative Council for 1952 was Kazimir Stal, general director of the Czechoslovak Radio; the vice presidents were Misho Nikolov, chairman of the Bulgarian Committee for Radio Information, and Petro Kito, president of the Albanian Radio Committee. The president of the Technical Commission for 1952 was M. Joachym, representative of Czechoslovak Radio, and members of the Bureau [sic] were V. Likhushkin, USSR, and Janika, Poland.(2)

The 11th session of the General Assembly, the 21st congress of the Administrative Council, and the 6th congress of the Technical Commission of the OIR met at Prague and Gottwaldov, Czechoslovakia, from 24 to 30 April 1952.

At the first meeting of the 20th congress of the Administrative Council of the OIR, a telegram from a new member of the OIR, Radiobroadcasting of the Chinese People's Republic, was made public. It read: "As members of the OIR, we

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shall do everything possible to strengthen our relations and technical co-operation with other members of the OIR so as to defend the rightful interests of broadcasting and to stop the criminal behavior of the US imperialists in broadcasting. We are sure that each success of the OIR is a step forward in the fight for peace throughout the world."

At this same meeting speeches were heard by T. Zheleznyy, director of the Administrative Directorate, and V. Trunov, deputy director of the Technical Center.

The delegate from the Chinese People's Republic said that the Chinese people had been successful in creating national radio engineering.

In 1951, the number of radio stations in China doubled in comparison to 1949, and during the same period, the number of transmitters tripled. The Chinese delegate expressed his gratitude to the USSR for its help.

The congress unanimously approved the activity of the Administrative Directorate and the Technical Center for 1951 and the program for 1952 and prepared an agenda for the 11th regular session.

The next congress was to be called in September 1952 in Budapest.

The 11th regular session approved the following permanent representatives on the Administrative Council: I. I. Poddnyak from the Radio Committee of the USSR; Li Chan and I. Mei, his deputy, from Radiobroadcasting of the Chinese People's Republic; Mihai Rosianu from the Radio Committee of the Rumanian People's Republic; and Pal Hajdu, deputy of the permanent representative of the Hungarian Radio.

The session approved the activity of the Administrative Council for 1951 and also approved the program for 1952.

The next session was planned to be held in March and April 1953 in Prague.

It was unanimously decided to call the fourth special session to make changes in the articles of the by-laws of the OIR in connection with the admittance of the Chinese People's Republic into the OIR. This session, called after the closing of the ninth regular session, recognized Chinese as an official language of the OIR, along with Russian, French, and English, thus changing Section 1, page 15, of the by-laws. Radiobroadcasting of the Chinese People's Republic was recognized as a permanent member of the Administrative Council of the OIR, along with the Radio Committee of the USSR and Czechoslovak Radio.

A number of speeches were heard at the sixth congress of the Technical Commission, concerning radio engineering. I. Shanshin, the Soviet engineer, spoke on the subject "Standardizing Systems and Construction of Wire Broadcasting." Engineer G. Probst, German Democratic Republic, spoke on "Some problems in Standardizing Television." Engineer H. Magradatchek spoke on the Copenhagen Plan and accused the US and English occupation forces of violating the plan. From tables using figures from 15 March 1950 to 30 March 1952, it was obvious that in the medium-wave band of 121 channels, only a few were not violated by the US and Great Britain. A bulletin is to be published by OIR concerning this problem.

The next congress of the Technical Commission was to be called during the 22d congress of the Administrative Council in Budapest.(3)

The 22d congress of the Administrative Council and the seventh congress of the Technical Commission of the OIR took place in Budapest from 23 to 30 September 1952.

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The 22d congress of the Administrative Council unanimously approved the membership of the Mongolian People's Republic in the OIR.

The congress noted that the International Telecommunications Union still does not allow the Chinese People's Republic to participate in its activities. Since representatives of the Chinese People's Republic were not invited to the International Telecommunications Conference in Buenos Aires on 7 October 1952, the 22d congress sent an open letter to the ITU urging its delegates to admit the Chinese People's Republic into its membership.

The congress exposed the gross violations of the Copenhagen Plan of frequency allocation by the occupation forces of the US and Great Britain. On 31 July 1952, 41 radio stations of the US illegally used 35 frequency channels, thereby interfering with the normal broadcasting of countries in the European Zone.

Great Britain was illegally using 19 frequency channels for 23 stations, violating the Copenhagen Plan, which she had signed.

Of 121 channels apportioned to the medium-wave band, 52 channels were plagued by interference, because the US and Great Britain were using frequencies illegally.

The congress heard a speech by engineer K. Vasil'yev, USSR, "On the Problem of Standardizing Equipment for Sound Recording."

Engineer M. Joachym, Czechoslovakia, spoke on the results of the Stockholm Conference in June 1952 on the distribution of ultra short-wave bands for television and frequency modulation broadcasting.(4)

SOURCES

1. Moscow, Radio, No 9, Sep 51
2. Ibid., No 3, Mar 52
3. Ibid., No 8, Aug 52
4. Ibid., No 12, Dec 52

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